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(CIA)

DETROIT (UPI) - CIA DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER SAID TODAY HIS AGENCY IS READY TO EXPAND INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES TO NONMILITARY AREAS TO PROVIDE ITS SERVICES TO BUSINESS AND GIVE TAXPAYERS "A BETTER RETURN ON THEIR INVESTMENT."

PRIOR TO SPEAKING TO THE ECONOMIC CLUB OF DETROIT, TURNER TOLD REPORTERS THE CIA IS INCREASING ITS COLLECTION OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INFORMATION THAT COULD BE OF VALUE TO BUSINESSMEN AND OTHER NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS.

"WE WANT TO SHARE WHAT INFORMATION WE COLLECT WHEN IT CAN BE UNCLASSIFIED," TURNER TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE. "FOR EXAMPLE, THERE IS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INFORMATION THAT WE CAN COLLECT THAT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN."

"THE CIA CAN BE OPEN IN ONLY ONE DIRECTION - SHARING INFORMATION. THE MORE YOU RELEASE, THE LESS YOU HAVE TO PROTECT, AND IT GIVES THE TAXPAYERS A BETTER RETURN ON THEIR INVESTMENT."

TURNER SAID THE SOVIET UNION, WHILE CONCENTRATING HEAVILY ON MAINTAINING AN EXTENSIVE SPY NETWORK, HAS FALLEN SERIOUSLY BEHIND THE UNITED STATES IN THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF INTELLIGENCE.

HE SAID SATELLITES AND OTHER DEVICES HAVE ENHANCED THE AGENCY'S ABILITY TO GATHER INFORMATION WORLDWIDE, BUT HAS NOT REDUCED THE CIA'S NEED FOR PERSONNEL.

"WE NOW HAVE AN INCREASED DEMAND FOR THE HUMAN ELEMENT," HE SAID. "WE USE THE TECHNOLOGY TO COLLECT INFORMATION, BUT WE NEED THE TRADITIONAL HUMAN AGENT TO KNOW WHAT SOMEONE'S PLANS AND INTENTIONS ARE."

TURNER SAID THE CIA'S ABILITY TO GATHER INTELLIGENCE HAS BEEN ENHANCED RATHER THAN HAMPERED BY RECENT CRACKDOWNS ON AGENT ACTIVITIES AND TIGHTENED SUPERVISION.

"THE OVERSIGHT PROCESS HELPS SHARE THE LOAD OF THE DIFFICULT DECISIONS WE OFTEN HAVE TO MAKE," HE SAID. "IT ALSO KEEPS US IN BETTER CONTACT WITH THE PUBLIC. IN THE PAST, I THINK WE WERE TOO ISOLATED FROM THAT."

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